

REMARKS

Prior to examination of this application, it is requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the record.

Based upon the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for examination.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the Applicant's attorney, so that the present application can receive an early notice of allowance.

Applicant retains all rights to the subject matter covered by the cancelled multiple dependent claims by making these claims directly dependent on a single claim. The subject matter now not included in these claims may be reintroduced as multiple dependent claims or as separate independent or dependent claims in the present application or in a continuation and/or divisional application.